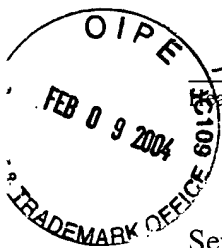


I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date specified below.



Heather S. Stutz  
Heather S. Stutz

Date: 2/3/04

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Serial No.: 09/981,209

Examiner: G. J. Piazza Corcoran

Filing Date: 10/17/2001

Group Art Unit: 1733

Inventor: W. Scott Hemphill

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR REPAIRING CONCRETE

Attorney Docket No. 596.004

**REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated November 05, 2003, applicant amends the above-identified application as follows:

**In The Claims:**

Please cancel claims 1-14 and 19-31.

Please amend the claims as follows:

1 – 14 (canceled)

15. (currently amended) An apparatus for joining a preexisting concrete section to a new concrete section, the apparatus comprising:

a generally flat, elongated insert having a body formed of a composite material, said insert including a first end that is bondable with said preexisting concrete section, and a second